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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO.

TOPIC Third Shock Army Fall Maneuvers in the Magdeburg Area

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 22 October 1954

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REFERENCES PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED

1. At 1330 on 29 September, a west-bound train with 9 guns and 43 trucks crossed the Eisenbahn Bridge Nord in Magdeburg.
2. At 1200 on 3 October, 33 GA aircraft (presumably of type Il-10) and 2 MiG-15s circled over the town of Magdeburg and subsequently turned off to the north in low-level flight. At the same time, heavy combat noise was heard from that direction.
3. At 1530 on 3 October, traffic MPs were posted from the eastern perimeter of Magdeburg as far as the Seeckt Kaserne (5287). Between 1545 and 1700, 4 columns of a total of 175 trucks, 35 pontoons, 5 motorboats, 4 amphibious cars, 8 light AA guns, 1 truck with hoisting gear, 13 radio trucks and 5 tank trucks arrived from the direction

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After the arrival of 1800 of engineer units at the Seeckt Kaserne which was previously reported, the installation was reoccupied to capacity.²

4. Between 1740 and 2210 on 3 October, there was intensive east-bound traffic of individual motor vehicles and columns across the Strassenbruecke Nord (road bridge) in Magdeburg. The columns included a total of 160 trucks, 19 tank trucks, 9 medium AA guns and 3 fire

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5. At 1200 on 4 October, 20 sidecar motorcycles and truck [redacted] crossed the Strassenbruecke Nord toward the Herrenkrug Kaserne (5283).⁴ 25X1
6. On 5 October, the following east-bound traffic across Strassenbruecke Nord in Magdeburg was observed:

At 0345: 5 armored personnel carriers, 13 sidecar motorcycles, 11 trucks; 25X1

At 0410: 16 trucks, 1 sidecar motorcycle, 1 jeep;

At 0545: 12 x 57-mm AT guns, 4 AT guns of 85-mm, 3 x 120 mm mortars, 24 guns of an unidentified type, 2 light AAA, 5 armored personnel carriers, 1 armored scout car, 9 tank trucks, and [redacted] 25X1

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At 0600: 1 armored scout car, 5 radio trucks, 7 tank trucks, 8 trucks

At 0610: 12 M-13 rocket launchers, about 20 trucks [redacted]

At 0620: 12 guns, 8 x 120-mm mortars, 4 x 160-mm mortars, and 65 trucks [redacted] 25X1

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At 0625: 2 T-34/85s [redacted] 25X1

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7. At 0800 on 5 October: a train heading toward the south passed through the Magdeburg-Buckau railroad station. It carried about 20 tanks [redacted] 25X1

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At 1610: a train consisting of an undetermined number of flatcars with 2 heavy SP guns [redacted] and 12 trucks and 6 boxcars with troops was sidetracked at the Magdeburg-Rothensee railroad station.⁷ 25X1

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At 0900 on 7 October: an east-bound train with 8 guns, presumably 152-mm gun howitzers, 8 YA-12 prime movers, 32 trucks and 15 boxcars partially occupied by troops crossed the Eisenbahnbruecke Nord.⁸

8. On 7 October, the Herrenkrug Kaserne (5283) was not yet occupied to capacity. The motor vehicle garages were only partially occupied. There was intensive activity in the installation. Troops engaged in maintenance duty on tanks and vehicles. Many trucks and tanks were seen in the yard. T-34/85s [redacted] were identified.⁴ 25X1

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1. Comment. These observations indicate that major elements of the air force also participated in the Third Shock Army maneuvers. 25X1
2. Comment. Same source reported that, major components of the 36th Pon Bridge Regt of the GSFG entered the Seeckt Kaserne at 1300 the same day. With the above mentioned units, which are also believed to have returned from exercises of the Third Shock Army, 120 pontoons, 10 motorboats, 8 light AAA, 295 trucks and 13 radio trucks arrived in Magdeburg on 3 October. Thus, the bulk of the regiment seems to have returned to the post. The eight AAA are reported with the regiment for the first time. Their existence with the unit appears plausible. 25X1
3. Comment. So far as can still be inferred from motor vehicle the units concerned may have been components of the 18th Mecz Div, and presumably headquarters of the LXXII Mtz Rifle Corps, which returned to their posts by road from Third Shock Army maneuvers. 25X1
4. Comment. According to the motorcycles and motor vehicle this was apparently a unit of the 112th Mtrcl Bn of the 19th Gds Mecz Div which was also previously stationed in the Herrensbrugg Kaserne. It is possible that small elements of the units of the division stationed there were still stationed at Letzling Heath on 7 October. 25X1
5. Comment. The motor vehicle indicate Third Shock Army components. Because of the change in the motor vehicle it could not be determined whether elements of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps or elements of the 19th Gds Mecz Div returning to the post were involved. 25X1
6. Comment. The southern direction indicates that units of the 7th Gds Tank Div may have come from Letzling Heath. 25X1
7. Comment. Apparently a unit of the 136th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt of the Third Shock Army whose return to Burg from the area of Letzling Heath after 3 October has been repeatedly observed. 25X1
8. Comment. Presumably two batteries of the 34th Arty Div which, upon participation in exercises of the Third Shock Army, returned to Potsdam. 25X1

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